

Ripley County Democrat.

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'ROUNDABOUT THE STATE.

Cleaned from Exchanges—Made by the Shears, the Pencil and the Paste Pot—Some Original, Some Credited, and Some Stolen, but Nearly All Interesting Reading.

Club women of Cape Girardeau are backing a plan to form a Red Cross unit in that city.

Malden shipped out \$75,000 worth of stock, cattle principally, to the St. Louis market, on the 6th instant.

The school board of Kennett has adopted a resolution requiring all the school children to be vaccinated.

Under a law recently signed by Governor Gardner, women of Missouri may now be elected as school directors.

Recently 387 auto owners in St. Louis were arraigned on the charge of not having secured 1917 licenses for their cars.

Dexter loses a hoop and lumber mill this month that gave employment to 65 men and paid out \$50,000 a year in wages. The concern goes to Mississippi.

In the circuit court at Benton, during the recent term, Robert Fite was sentenced to a term of ten years in the penitentiary for the murder of Rube Ballard some months ago.

There are about 1,600 dependent ex-Confederates in Missouri and they will be given pensions the next two years. The legislature appropriated \$320,000 for them, covering back pay for them for a year or so.

At the recent city election at Poplar Bluff the Democrats not only elected the mayor but most of their other candidates on the city ticket, though that city usually has about 300 Republican majority.

Poplar Bluff people evidently not only believe in preparedness in time. They have already selected their committee to have charge of the preparations for the Fourth of July celebration this year.

A Christian preacher at Dexter says that most people are only graphophone records—talking out what other people talk into them, and he also says that Easter observance and festivities are only foolish customs inherited from the "Dark Ages."

The Charleston basketball team, which won the Southeast Missouri championship, finished fourth in the state tournament at Columbia a few days ago, being led by Central High School of Kansas City, Warrensburg Training School and Fayette High School.

Thousands of wild ducks stopped on the banks of the Mississippi river, near the Ends bridge at St. Louis, one day last week. Nesting undisturbed for almost an entire day, they resumed their flight northward. The unusual sight was witnessed by thousands of people from the bridge.

Miss Nettie Miller, a Cape county girl who was suspected of being the author of letters written to residents of Scott county, asking them to assassinate the wife of Dr. Schultz, a prominent physician and surgeon of Cape Girardeau, was adjudged insane by the common pleas court in that city recently and ordered sent to the asylum at Farmington.

Last week a coffin was discovered floating in the Mississippi by M. Robinson, living about 3 miles

below New Madrid. Investigation disclosed it to contain the corpse of a negro who had been buried in a cemetery a mile above the place where found, and where the bank had caved and was caving during the high water. The body was turned over by the coroner to negroes for reburial.

The Missouri Supreme Court has rendered a decision that the railroads in this state may raise their rates to 2 and 1-2 cents a mile for passengers one way and 2 and 1-4 cents for round trip tickets, and that the roads are authorized to have an increase of five per cent on freight rates. The new rates will go into effect about the first of July, if the matter does not get into the courts again.

About a dozen people, men, women and children, were rounded up by U. S. court officers and taken to the Cape for a hearing, at Malden last week. They were charged with using the mails to defraud by a mail order house in Chicago. One of the men had been ordering goods in the name of a dead man and distributing them around among his friends. Judge Dyer sent most of the people back home.

In a recent issue of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch we notice an authority on the making of shoes states that one inch added to the length of ladies skirts would mean an annual saving to the nation of \$10,000,000. If this is true, judging from the length of some skirts we have seen, a saving of about \$140,000,000 could be made annually and still have room to show a decently turned voluptuous ankle. — Lateville Banner.

Cord Hankins, a farmer living near a small station known as De Lisle, two miles south of Portageville, was killed by a freight train last week, one morning, having fallen asleep on the track while walking to his home from Portageville. His body was cut into several pieces, it being impossible to stop the train after the engineer discovered him on the track. He was about forty years of age and had a family of three children.

A circuit riding preacher who has three charges up in the hills between here and St. Louis, started one of his congregations recently by a most unusual announcement. As the story goes the congregation sought to please him and surprise him by raising his salary from \$700 to \$900, and when they proudly told the joyful news to the preacher he said: "My dear brethren, I cannot accept it. I have all I can do now to collect the \$700."

The body of W. J. Johnson, a timber worker who was drowned in a drainage ditch near Coker Landing, by being sucked under a drift from an overturned boat, the drowning occurring in Dunklin county, two weeks ago, was recovered about a quarter of a mile below that point a few days after the drowning. A dredge boat which visited the place to do some work on the ditch cleared out the drift under which he was drowned, thus releasing the body, which floated down stream some distance before being discovered.

A lady of Puxico, Mrs. Scott Gillespie, a few days ago, succeeded in dislodging a grain of oats from one of her ears, where it had rested for the past fifty years. Fifty years ago, while her father was threshing out oats with an old-fashioned flail, and she was a little child watching him, one of the grains flew into her ear, remaining there since and resisting all efforts short of an operation to remove, until she worked it out finally with a hair-pin.

The supreme court has ordered that all objections to the report of the findings of Commissioner Harry Alexander in the Bradley-Cox contest must be filed by April 15, and that contestant Bradley must file his brief not later than April 22. Contestee Cox must file his brief by the 1st day of May next. The case is set for hearing by the supreme court, May 8, and it is predicted by Judge Bradley that a decision will probably be handed down in two or three weeks thereafter. — Dunklin County News.

Sheriff Fred Sneed, of Scott county, probably will be believer in dreams hereafter. A few nights ago he dreamed one of his prisoners, W. E. Lee, a man with a prison-breaking record, had made a getaway and he was forced to shoot him in the leg to capture him. He was so impressed by the vision that he went to the jail to assure himself of conditions and found that five minutes longer would have seen his eight prisoners on the outside, they, under Lee's leadership, having almost gotten a hole dug through the wall. Needless to say they were speedily placed in the steel cages.

Pleasant Hill Times; After one of Billy Sunday's revivals, a well-known scoundrel of Kansas City applied to a church for membership. The committee, knowing his reputation, advised that he wait a month and pray, and then consider the matter of his fitness. At the end of the month he returned and was asked to give his experience before the entire church. He arose, solemnly turned to the minister, deacons and audience, and said: "Fellow sinners, daily for a month God has admonished me not to feel badly if I did not get into this church, for I had tried for 20 years and was not in yet."

Mrs. J. J. Russell, of Missouri, wife of Representative Russell, is nominated for the office of organizing secretary general of the Daughters of the American Revolution on the ticket of Mrs. John Miller Horton of Buffalo, candidate for the office of president general, now made public. Mrs. Russell will have three opponents who are on the tickets of the other three candidates for the office of president general, including Mrs. George Thatcher, Gaurnsey, of Kansas, Mrs. George C. Squires of St. Paul, of Minn., and Mrs. J. Hamilton Lewis, wife of Senator Lewis of Illinois. Mrs. Russell has been prominent in club circles in Washington since coming here when her husband was first elected to Congress. Her last office was president of the Congressional Club. — Republican, Cape Girardeau.

Stop Left Over Coughs.
Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey will stop that hacking cough that lingers from January. The soothing pine balsam loosens the phlegm, heals the irritated membrane, the glycerine relieves the tender tissues, you breathe easier and coughing ceases. Don't neglect a lingering cough. It is dangerous. Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey is a natural and pleasant to take, benefits young and old, get it at your druggist today. Formulas on the bottle. — 25c. 50c.

National Defense.

THE FOOD PROBLEM

S. F. BUSH, Receiver
Missouri Pacific—Iron Mountains

In the great crisis which now confronts our country, no more signal service can be rendered than by the farmers of the country in a united and earnest effort to raise enough food products for the United States and her allies. This is equally as important as recruiting a large army or manning a more extensive navy. It is as true now as when Marcus Cato proclaimed to the Romans that you cannot "make speeches to the belly, which has no ears," for the stomach cannot be filled with fair words.

The nation, in time of war, is entitled from every man, rich or poor, to such service as may be required, subject to the limitations imposed by age or sickness.

With a reported slump of more than fifty million bushels of winter wheat, as compared with last year's crop, as recently reported by the Government, our country is brought face to face with the first serious war feeding problem.

To meet the increased demands for food products, caused by the war, additional preparations would be necessary were it not for the present decrease in the wheat crop, but on account of such decrease, the question of supplying the food necessary for fighting men presents a serious problem which the farmers of our country must help to solve.

The government, anxious to profit by the conditions which have been presented in Europe, has appealed through the Secretary of Agriculture, for an increase in the food crops necessary to feed our own people and those across the seas who must rely in large part upon American farmers.

The present war and natural conditions have resulted in a scarcity of food products throughout the whole world, and regardless of the increased remuneration which this condition guarantees for such products, it is apparent that every farmer should bend every effort to increase the acreage and yield of all kinds of food stuffs by obtaining the necessary feed, labor and implements to do so.

Where the spring wheat crops are found to be impracticable, the land should be utilized for oats, barley or other substituted crops for which the soil is adapted, and too many acres of beans, peas and forage products cannot be produced to meet the increased demands that will be made upon the Middle West.

The large army of able-bodied men, too old to fight, can do their part by preparations to help feed the men who fight.

In addition to the crops of corn and wheat, thousands of acres of navy beans and similar crops that have the maximum amount of nutrition to the hundred pounds should be raised. All kinds of food stuffs that can be profitably canned or dried or prepared for ocean transportation should be prepared in order that our soldiers and those of our allies can be provided with a varied and wholesome diet.

With such men at the head of the United States Board as Hon. Herbert C. Hoover, of the Council of National Defense, our country will have the satisfaction of knowing that the problem which baffled Europe on the supply and price of food products will be met and properly solved in this country with the stimulus and patriotism with which the farmers of our country will respond to the appeal of the general government.

No compulsory tillage of the soil, such as England was compelled to enact under the powers of the Defense of the Realm Act in Ireland, will be necessary in the United States.

The transportation lines of the country are adapting all available revenue and every possible means to be prepared to serve the country and general public as transportation agencies, and through their several agriculture departments, they will render any assistance they can to the agriculture sections in order to meet the appeal of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The men in the Agriculture Department of the Missouri Pacific and Iron Mountain Railways will co-operate with the farmers, both individually and through their organizations, in an effort to assist in bringing about an increase in the yield of the lands of this section.

YOUTH'S GOLDEN DAYS

He is a poor man who never was foolish. It is appalling to think over what he has missed. I am glad that there was a time when I was unenlightened; that there was a time when an opinion was attractive because it was radical, and the "miserable little virtue of prudence" was not a part of my moral code. I think it makes me more charitable toward youth. Whether it does or not, there can be no doubt that the surest corrective and sweetener of life is a vivid memory.—Robert M. Gay, in the Atlantic.

FARM HINTS

Every mature bull should have a ring in his nose.

Be regular in time of milking.

For correcting soil acidity, one ton of burned lime is practically equal to one and one-half tons of slaked lime or two tons of ground limestone, in case all three forms are of equal grade of purity.

Successful methods for the control of the root-rot of sweet potatoes, a serious and destructive disease in several states, have been developed by the specialists of the department of agriculture.

Regions having a semiarid climate can produce alfalfa successfully in nearly all types of soil and through a wide range of temperatures.

Why not plant small fruits. They are as easy to grow as vegetables, and you get reasonably quick results.

Every farmer should have a pride in the colts and horses he raises.

Moving-Picture Types

"There are three types of photographs," writes Vachel Lindsay, the poet, in "The Arts of the Moving Picture," and he proceeds to classify them as pictures of action, pictures of intimacy, and pictures of splendor.

"The action pictures are those when the outpouring of physical force at high speed is the main source of drama. 'The Spellers,' from the novel of Rex Beach, is an example.

"The intimate pictures are based on the ability to photograph and magnify small groups 'close up.' They give us lyrics, genre pictures, village comedies and the like.

"The splendor pictures may be subdivided in four sorts. The fairy tale splendor is such a production as 'Cinderella,' played by Mabel Taliaferro. The patriotic splendor is such a one as 'Cahira,' a story of ancient Italy. The crowd splendor is the panorama where the principal dramatic asset is in showing the changing moods of informal public gatherings."

To Detect Gas in Mines

A new electrical instrument to detect explosive gas in mines has just been patented. Such an instrument is necessary because of the greatly increased use of electric mine lamps instead of the old-time Davy safety lamps. The Davy lamp gave the miner warning of the presence of gas, but the electric flash lamp, of course, does not. The new detector consists of two glowing electric wires connected in series. One wire is treated so as to burn more brightly in gas-laden air than in pure air. In perfectly pure air the two wires glow with exactly the same brightness. By noting the difference in the brightness of the two indicators the miner can not only detect the presence of dangerous gas but can also tell almost exactly how much of it is present.

Unselfish Newspaper Men

What is known as a "scoop" in America does not exist in Japan. If one newspaper has a particularly choice item of news, it communicates it to other papers. What is the use of being selfish? After all, it is the editorial opinion that counts, but even in this there is an exchange of courtesy, because it is a common thing for one paper to remark that the other "commented editorially as follows yesterday." — Archie Bell in World Outlook.

What He Said

"Has the doctor been here today?" asked the wife.

"Yes, he has," replied the gony husband.

"What did he say?"

"Two dollars."

FACTS ABOUT THE EARTH

Atmosphere Now Believed by Scientists to Have Three Fairly Distinct Strata.

The earth's atmosphere is now believed to have three fairly distinct strata, the first extending up to about forty-five miles, having nitrogen as the leading constituent; the second, with its upper limit at about 125 miles, being chiefly hydrogen, and the third, at a still greater height, consisting of a very thin gas which has been named "geocoronium." Dr. Alfred Wegener has attempted to explain the striking differences of color in meteors or "shooting stars," and says that meteors coming from outer space are not sufficiently heated in the exceedingly light gas to become luminous. They fall through the hydrogen layer causing them to become incandescent, and before they reach the lowest stratum most of them are completely dissipated. A few of the largest however penetrate the nitrogen atmosphere, a very small number reaching the earth's surface. It is found that the deep-falling meteors pass through three stages of color, yellow-white, green and deep red—and it is concluded that the green is due to incandescence of the hydrogen and the red to that of the nitrogen. Only the first stage is seen in the quickly dissipated meteors, the white, yellow or sometimes reddishness being evidently the glow of the meteor substance.

WHAT CALIBER OF GUN MEANS

Term as Applied to Artillery is Cause of Confusion in the Popular Mind.

Confusion as to the meaning of the term caliber arises chiefly from its use as an adjective to indicate length, as when we say "a 50-caliber six-inch gun." The word caliber, as applied to artillery, signifies the diameter of the bore of a gun measured diametrically from face to face of the bore, of course somewhat larger.

A gun, then, of six-inch caliber is a gun whose bore is just six inches. For convenience and because the power of a gun when once its bore has been decided upon depends so greatly upon its length, artillerymen are in the habit of defining the length of the gun in terms of the caliber.

Thus the 12-inch United States naval gun, which is 40 feet in length, is spoken of as a 40-caliber 12-inch, the length being just 40 times the bore. The 6-inch rapid-fire gun is a trifle under 25 feet in length and is therefore known as a 50-caliber gun.

In the case of small arms the caliber is expressed in hundredths of an inch, as when we say a 22-caliber revolver we mean one with a bore that has a diameter of .22 of an inch.

Whose Uncle?

A man learned of the death of an uncle in a distant state and employed an attorney to get for him his share of the estate. After much delay the lawyer sent for his client and said:

"I have collected your share of your uncle's property, and here is a statement of our account."

The account rendered showed many items of expenses, such as "taking depositions," "notary's fees," "court costs," "traveling expenses," etc., a considerable charge in favor of the attorney for his services and only a small balance for the nephew.

After examining and pondering over the statement for quite a while the client looked up and said to the lawyer: "Was that your uncle or mine that died?" — West's Docket.

Japs Like Fresh Air

The normal Japanese woman satisfies the artist's ideals as well as the surgeon's. The average woman in Japan today shows a figure that is as perfectly molded and of as true proportion as the woman of ancient Greece was able to display. Consumption is a rare disease in Japan; even winter coughs are of rare occurrence. The Japanese woman is taught from earliest childhood that life is impossible without a sufficient supply of fresh air. This internal cleansing with fresh air is deemed of more importance than the bath that usually follows it.

Other People's Things

Did you ever see a girl who would turn down the leaf of her library book to mark her place, when she wouldn't think of turning one of her own books in such a fashion? Did you ever know a boy who would leave a borrowed bicycle standing out in the damp, though he was very particular about his own things? It is a pity that little folks or older ones should ever be less careful of what belongs to someone else than of what is their own.

Proper Place for It

Patience—To going to get Bob a necktie for his Christmas.

Patience—Where you think you'll get it?

"Around his neck, of course."